

Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA

§ 1465.3

Subpart B—Contracts

- 1465.20 Applications for participation and selecting applications for contracting.
- 1465.21 Contract requirements.
- 1465.22 Conservation practice operation and maintenance.
- 1465.23 Cost-share payments.
- 1465.24 Contract modification, extension, and transfer of land.
- 1465.25 Contract violations and termination.

Subpart C—General Administration

- 1465.30 Appeals.
- 1465.31 Compliance with regulatory measures.
- 1465.32 Access to operating unit.
- 1465.33 Performance based upon advice or action of representatives of NRCS.
- 1465.34 Offsets and assignments.
- 1466.35 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 1524(b), 16 U.S.C. 3801.

SOURCE: 68 FR 17273, Apr. 9, 2003, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 1465.1 Purposes and applicability.

Through the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) program, the NRCS provides financial assistance funds annually to producers in 15 statutorily designated states to construct or improve water management structures or irrigation structures; to plant trees to form windbreaks or to improve water quality; and to mitigate risk through production diversification or resource conservation practices, including soil erosion control, integrated pest management, or transition to organic farming. The AMA Program is applicable in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Maine, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

§ 1465.2 Administration.

(a) Administration and implementation of the conservation provisions of AMA Program for the CCC is assigned to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is responsible for 'person' determinations under §1465.23(c) and making cost-share payments.

(b) NRCS will:

(1) Provide overall management and implementation leadership for the AMA Program;

(2) Establish policies, procedures, priorities, and guidance for implementation;

(3) Establish cost-share payment limits;

(4) Determine eligible practices;

(5) Develop and approve conservation plans and contracts with selected participants;

(6) Provide technical leadership for implementation, quality assurance, and evaluation of performance; and

(7) Make funding decisions and determine allocations of AMA funds.

(c) FSA will:

(1) Determine 'person' and producer eligibility; and

(2) Make cost-share payments for practices completed.

§ 1465.3 Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this part and all documents issued in accordance with this part, unless specified otherwise:

Applicant means an agricultural producer who has requested in writing to participate in the AMA Program. Producers who are members of a joint operation shall be considered one applicant.

Chief means the Chief of NRCS, or designee.

Conservation district means a political subdivision of a State, Indian tribe, or territory, organized pursuant to the State or territorial soil conservation district law, or tribal law. The subdivision may be a conservation district, soil conservation district, soil and water conservation district, resource conservation district, natural resource district, land conservation committee, or similar legally constituted body.

Conservation plan means a record of the participant's decisions, and supporting information, for treatment of a unit of land or water, and includes the schedule of operations, activities, and estimated expenditures needed to solve identified natural resource concerns.

Conservation practice means a specified treatment, such as a structural or vegetative practice or a land management practice, which is planned and